

Wanda Grone

From: Denise Peet <dpeet@coupeville.k12.wa.us>
Sent: Tuesday, March 31, 2020 11:26 AM
To: Wanda Grone
Subject: Re: Property Tax Deadlines
Attachments: 0001 XCashFlow 2019-20 033020.pdf

Dear Wanda,

Thank you for standing fast on the tax collections. You are correct about the taxes the county collects - the local portion goes directly to districts and the state portion goes to the state to fund school districts future apportionment payments.

I know many people are experiencing financial difficulties and recognize the burden of paying property taxes could have on individuals. However, I do know the loss of revenue would have a significant impact on Coupeville School District.

At Coupeville we depend on our local levy tax collections to make ends meet. Because the state reduces our apportionment payment significantly in May and June in anticipation of districts collecting local levy, we would be in dire straits to make our payroll in April and beyond if we did not receive local levy funds. I have attached the cash flow statement that I share with the school board to help give them a picture on how we are standing financially (General Fund only). This spreadsheet uses actual numbers year to date as of February 29, 2020 and projections for the remainder of the year.

Our apportionment will decrease in May by almost half, from \$821,289 to \$456,272, and another \$200,000 to 250,000 less in June. Even with us receiving our normal amount of levy in April/May, by June we will only have \$35,000 in the bank. It is essential that we receive levy funds.

As far as our Debt Service fund, we currently have enough cash on hand to pay the interest due in June (approx \$125,000). However, if tax payments are delayed or waived and not restored by November, we will not have enough funds to cover the \$1,842,200 payment due in December. Our bond rating would likely be significantly impacted, which impacts future bond interest.

Thank you for supporting those entities that depend on taxpayer dollars.

Stay safe, stay healthy,

Denise Peet

Coupeville School District
Business Manager
360.678.2407

On Mon, Mar 30, 2020 at 11:51 AM Wanda Grone <W.Grone@islandcountywa.gov> wrote:
Dear Island County School Finance Officers:

As you can imagine, I am catching heat from the taxpayers for not agreeing to extend the April 30 property tax deadline. I am standing firm on this because I cannot imagine what a month or two's delay in tax collections would mean to your districts.

It is my understanding that what we collect and fund directly to you funds your secondary levies. It is also my

understanding that what we collect for the State School and remit to the State Treasurer is in turn used to fund your monthly apportionments in a future month.

Am I correct?

It would be extremely helpful if you could provide me with a statement from your school district regarding your need for the property tax payment due date to remain April 30. I know that some of your districts have debt service payments due June 1, and for those to be paid timely, the money must be deposited in your fund by May 25. Failure to make debt payments would adversely affect your district, and the county and state by association.

I am maintaining the deadline at April 30 on your behalf. Supporting statements from you would be very helpful in maintaining collections at usual levels.

Thank you,

Wanda

Wanda J. Grone, CPA

Island County Treasurer

Mail: PO Box 699, Coupeville, WA 98239-0699

Physical: 1 NE 7th Street, Suite 111, Coupeville, WA (no mail)

Phone: 360.679.7301 (Direct)

360.679.7302 (Office)

360.240.5567 (Fax)

Updated Email: wgrone@islandcountywa.gov<<mailto:wgrone@islandcountywa.gov>>

Web: www.islandcountywa.gov/treasurer<<http://www.islandcountywa.gov/treasurer>>

Email is subject to public disclosure requirements per RCW 42.56